



*Forests are a vital and essential  
element for a high quality of life.*

PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS KNOW THAT OUR  
PRECIOUS RESOURCES,

*water, soil, wildlife,  
air, and timber,*

CAN BE UTILIZED AND RENEWED WITH CAREFUL MAN-  
AGEMENT. BY CONSERVING AND ENHANCING THE  
HEALTH OF OUR ECOSYSTEMS, WE ENSURE ABUN-  
DANCE OF THESE RESOURCES FOR THE PRESENT AND  
FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Many landowners are already devoted to caring for the intricate balance of the diverse natural resources of the state's woodlands. In response to the efforts of these landowners, the Mississippi Forestry Commission, together with the USDA Forest Service and the Mississippi Forest Stewardship Committee, has created an exciting new recognition program: the Mississippi Forest Stewardship Program. This Program showcases the example of landowners who develop productive forests, increase wildlife habitat, improve water quality, provide effective erosion control, and improve outdoor recreational opportunities for our citizens. Forest Stewards set the standard for others to follow.

*"Conservation  
is a state of harmony  
between  
man and land."*

ALDO LEOPOLD, 1949

### FOREST STEWARDSHIP BENEFITS

Mississippi Forest Stewards are an elite group of private, nonindustrial forest landowners who have been selected for recognition because of outstanding land management.

As a certified Forest Steward, we'll provide you with professional technical assistance to successfully manage your woodlands.

You'll receive a certificate of recognition and property sign as one of the designated Mississippi Forest Stewards selected in your area. You'll also be recognized in the local and regional media for your conservation achievements. Special awards will be presented at five-year intervals to private landowners with continuous participation in the program. More importantly, as a certified Forest Steward, you will understand the peace of mind that comes from knowing you are a true steward of the land.





## BECOME NOMINATED AS A MISSISSIPPI FOREST STEWARD

*Complete the nomination form and mail it  
to the Mississippi Forestry Commission  
County Forester.*



Your County Forester will review your nomination and answer any questions you may have. Upon approval, you will be notified of your acceptance as an official Mississippi Forest Steward.

### QUALIFYING CHECKLIST:

To qualify as a Mississippi Forest Steward, you must meet the following criteria:

1. The land holding must be a minimum of ten (10) acres.
2. The landowner must have at least two (2) objectives for management based on the following:
  - ~ Timber Production
  - ~ Wildlife
  - ~ Recreation
  - ~ Aesthetics
  - ~ Environmental Education
  - ~ Water Quality
  - ~ Ecological/Site Restoration
  - ~ Air Quality
3. The landowner must have a current, approved ten-year multiple resource management plan on one hundred (100) percent of his/her forested land existing in a contiguous ownership block.

4. The landowner must demonstrate that he/she is a good steward by practicing multiple resource management in accordance with the resource management plan and the following criteria:
  - ~ Timber is protected from fire, insects, and disease in accordance with the management objectives.
  - ~ Damaged timber is salvaged, unless this interferes with primary or secondary management objectives.
  - ~ Regeneration plans are made before final harvest, unless the land use will change.
  - ~ Management activities are carried out in a manner least damaging to the other resources.
  - ~ Best Management Practices are carried out as specified in Mississippi's Best Management Practices for Forestry (MFC Publication #107).
  - ~ Unique plant communities, critical wildlife habitat, and endangered species habitats are protected.
  - ~ Consideration is given to aesthetics while carrying out management objectives.

*Note: Public lands must be certified as a demonstration forest and have a stewardship demonstration plan in addition to the above criteria.*

### APPLY TODAY:

We encourage you to apply today. Thank you for your continued efforts to develop, enhance, and protect the natural resources of your property. We look forward to your participation in the Mississippi Forest Stewardship Program. For more information please contact:

Mississippi Forestry Commission  
301 N. Lamar St., Ste. 300  
Jackson, MS 39201  
601.359.1386



Mississippi Forest  
Stewardship  
Committee



Mississippi Forestry  
Commission



USDA Forest Service

*The Mississippi Forestry Commission provides equal employment opportunity and services to all individuals regardless of disability, race, age, religion, color, gender, creed, national origin, or political affiliation.*

## Forest Stewardship Program

